

Statement of Support for the Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment

Arizona is proud to be home to more than 500,000 service members, veterans, and their families, representing all branches and eras of military service. These individuals represent a highly skilled and dependable workforce by bringing leadership, adaptability, and a deep sense of service that strengthens Arizona's economy and communities.

The *Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment* is a statewide initiative provided in partnership and coordination with the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Arizona Coalition for Military Families, Arizona Commerce Authority, Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Arizona@WORK state workforce system. The Arizona Road Map to Veteran Employment connects military-affiliated individuals with meaningful employment, training, and professional development opportunities. Through this effort, Arizona is creating long-term pathways to career success for those who serve and financial stability for their families.

A key component of this initiative is the *Arizona Veteran Supportive Employer (AVSE)* designation, which identifies organizations committed to hiring and retaining military talent. The AVSE designation signifies that these dedicated employers go beyond the basics of recruiting veterans. The AVSE designation signals to potential applicants that the employer implements workplace policies and retention strategies that support veterans, military spouses, and military-affiliated family members throughout their career journey.

Because of the holistic nature of the Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment, which focuses on service members, veterans and their families while providing support and training for employers, I fully support the Arizona Roadmap to Veteran Employment and encourage all public agencies and private sector leaders to:

- Implement the Roadmap's strategies and adopt best practices to engage military-affiliated job seekers.
- Collaborate with the veteran community to ensure services align with real needs and experiences.
Recognize and champion the unique strengths that service members, veterans and their families bring to the workplace.
- Cultivate an environment that understands and supports the military lifestyle, creating supportive policies and meaningful opportunities for all who serve and support our nation.

Arizona remains a national leader in supporting service members, veterans and military families. Through shared commitment and coordinated action, we can continue building a state where those who serve are empowered to succeed.

[Signatures]



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